Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) An outdoor unit [(24)] for a satellite television ground system [(10)] comprising:

downlink circuitry operative to receive a [first and second] satellite television signal[s] from a [first and second] satellite[s], frequency lock to the satellite television signal, process the [first and second] satellite television signal[s], and provide the processed [first and second] satellite television signal[s] to an indoor unit [(30)] of the satellite television ground system [(34,36)]; and

uplink circuitry operative to receive an uplink signal from the indoor unit [(30)], process the received uplink signal, and transmit [provide] the processed uplink signal to the satellites [transmitting antenna] only when said downlink circuitry is simultaneously receiving said satellite television signal from said satellite and is frequency locked to said satellite television signal from said satellite. [when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites (42)]

2. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 1, wherein the uplink circuitry is further operative to receive an uplink control signal from the indoor unit indicating said downlink circuitry being [a] frequency locked [condition] to the satellite television signal[s from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit].

3. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 2, wherein the uplink control signal comprises an uplink data signal and an uplink oscillator signal.

4. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 3, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from [one of] the [first or second] satellite television signal[s].

5. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 4, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from a frequency conversion error data from [one of] the [first or second] satellite television signal[s].

6. (currently amended) An outdoor unit [(24)] for a satellite television ground system comprising:

means for receiving a [first and second] satellite television signal[s] from a [first and second] satellite[s (16,18)];

means for processing the [first and second] satellite television signal[s (34,36)];

means for providing the processed [first and second] satellite television signal[s] to an indoor unit of the satellite television ground system [(38)];

means for receiving an uplink signal from the indoor unit [(42)];

means for processing the received uplink signal [(90,99)]; and

means for providing the processed uplink signal to said [a] satellite [transmitting antenna] only when said means for receiving is receiving the satellite television signal from said satellite and is frequency locked to said satellite television signal from said satellite [.when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites (42)].

7. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 6, further comprising:

means for receiving an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from [one of] the [first or second] satellite[s] from the indoor unit.

8. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 7, wherein the uplink control signal comprises an uplink data signal and an uplink oscillator signal.

9. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24] of claim 8, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from [one of] the [first and second] satellite television signal[s].

10. (currently amended) The outdoor unit [(24)] of claim 9, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from a frequency conversion error data from [one of] the [first or second] satellite television signal[s].

11. (currently amended) In an outdoor unit [(24)] of a satellite television ground system [(10)], a method of providing an uplink communication with a television broadcasting satellite comprising the steps of:

receiving [first and second] a satellite television signals from a [first and second] satellite[s (16,18)];

processing the [first and second] satellite television signal[s (34,36)];

providing the processed [first and second] satellite television signal[s] to an indoor unit of the satellite television ground system (32,38);

receiving an uplink signal from the indoor unit;

processing the received uplink signal (42); and

providing the processed uplink signal to the [a] satellite [transmitting antenna] while simultaneously receiving the satellite television signal from said satellite and receiving an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to said satellite television signal from said satellite. [when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites.]

12. (canceled)

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the uplink control signal comprises an uplink data signal and an uplink oscillator signal.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from [one of] the [first and second] satellite television signal[s].

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from frequency conversion error data from [one of] the [first and second] satellite television signal[s].

16 - 17 (cancelled)